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THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Super Summer trains select students

Tony Martin
Associate Editor

Once again, Super Summer, an event sponsored by the Discipleship and Family Ministries (DFM) Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board on the campus of Mississippi College (MC) July 12 - 16, made a significant impact in the lives of students.

Unlike a traditional camp, Super Summer is a discipleship/evangelism leadership conference designed to provide qualitative spiritual growth and help develop student leadership in Mississippi churches. For 24 years, the event has challenged students to learn how to penetrate their culture for Christ. Speaker for this year's event was Bryant Bush. Worship leader was the Stephen Miller Band.

According to Ken Hall, consultant in the DFM Department, 956 students, team leaders, and staff participated in the event.

"When a student comes to Super Summer, depending on what school grade he or she is in, and depending on how many times they've been to Super Summer, they are placed in 'schools.' They spend most of their time during the day in these groups. Each school has its own staff and team leaders. They receive most of their training in the schools," Hall said.

"We had five first-year schools, two second-year schools, two third-year schools, a fourth-year school, a fifth-year school and an adult school. Each year builds on the year before. Specific topics are covered, depending on which school a student is assigned to.

For adults, it's like a training institute, in which we take adult leaders and train them in several areas. Within these schools, students are placed within small family groups which meet after their main sessions. That way, they can debrief and go deeper into whatever they talked about," he said.

Students were enthusiastic about their experiences. According to Mackenzie Ross, a blue school (second-year) student from Highland Church, Meridian, "I was in the seventh grade, and the other kids at church had been telling me how fun Super Summer was, and I wasn't old enough at the time. I was able to go last year and absolutely loved it. I came back this year."

"I look up to my sister — she's my role model," said Carrie Stewart, from Carterville Church, Petal. "She told me what a great camp this was and how much she learned and grew closer to God. Last year I came, expecting it to be an amazing camp, but it was so much more than that. I was so excited to come back this year."

"The speaker this year is so good," said Jaz Martin, from Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian. "The worship has been awesome."

"Last night, it was like God just came down and touched us all," said Caroline Kennard, from Highland Church, Meridian. "It's like the closest thing to heaven," said Jaz.

"You'll grow so much closer to God," said Mackenzie. "Before you come, you may think, 'OK, I'm a good Christian,

I go to church, I think I'm strong in my faith. Then you realize that you never stop growing in your relationship with God."

"Think about it," said Caroline. "Here you have 700 potential leaders for God."

"You come home on an all-time high," said Carrie.

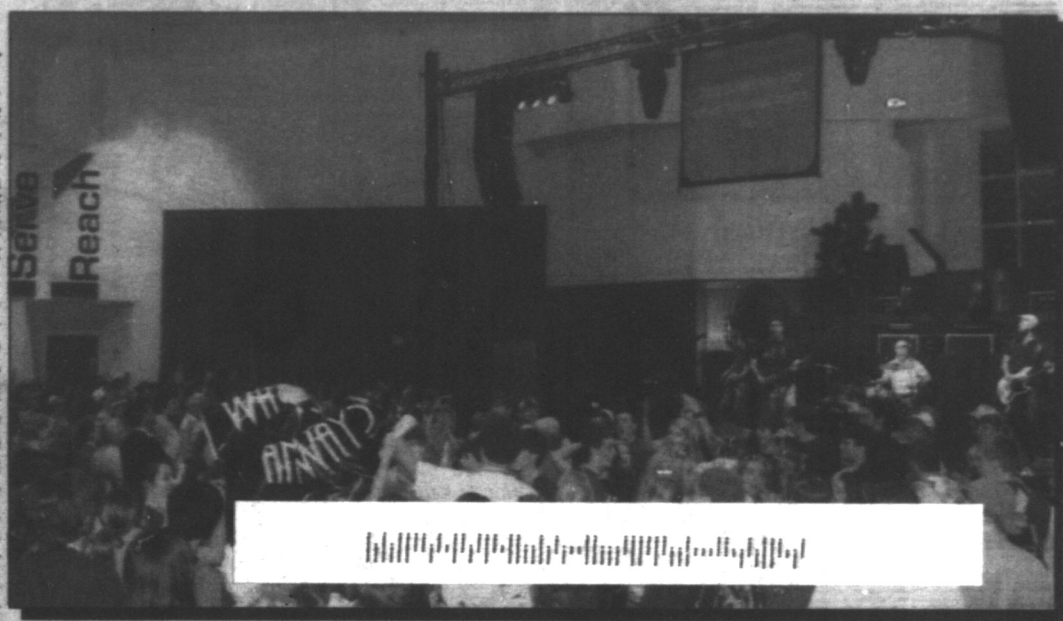
"We're looking for a certain kind of student, and we have certain requirements. Our requirements are there for a reason. This is not a camp that you'd send a kid to to get saved. It's more of a leadership training event, trying to develop future church leaders, but more than looking for students who just try to complete requirements to come to Super Summer, we look for students who are living the requirement all year long."

Requirements for participants include being a faithful, baptized believer; living and actively sharing their faith constantly; devoted to prayer, purity, abstinence, and being drug-free; participating in student ministry events in their church; involved in a small group discipleship study or accountability group; memorize at least 10 scripture verses each year; and keeping a journal detailing how they are growing in their walk with Christ. Second-year and above students have to write an essay of 1,000 words expressing their commitment to Christ and how they are involved in leadership in their church and community.

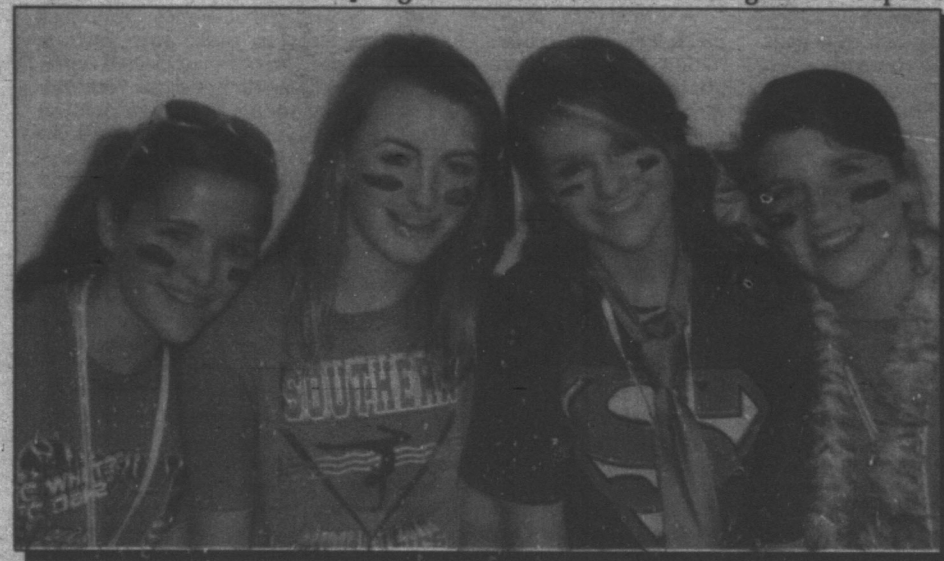
"Several youth ministers have gone beyond these requirements and set their own requirements for their kids," Hall said.

Because of the number of students participating, worship had to be moved from Swor Auditorium on the MC campus to First Church, Clinton. "I was moved by how hungry and eager the kids were," said Hall.

Plans for 2011 include the addition of a school for college students. Next year's event is planned for July 11 - 15.



WORSHIP AND PRAISE — The Stephen Miller Band leads students in a time of worship at First Church, Clinton, during Super Summer, July 12 - 16. (Photo by Tony Martin)



BLUE SCHOOL STUDENTS — Caroline Kennard, Highland Church, Meridian; Carrie Stewart, Carterville Church, Petal; Jaz Martin, Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian; and Mackenzie Ross, Highland Church, Meridian, are seen during a break from Super Summer activities. The young ladies were all second year students at the event. (Photo by Tony Martin)



Former Mississippi pastor sets milestone

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Joe McKeever has held a lot of day jobs — secretary; pastor of, among several churches, First Church, Columbus; a staffer at First Church, Jackson; denominational worker; and now, in “retirement,” itinerant preacher and seminary professor.

Perhaps he is best known, however, for his hobby — cartooning.

McKeever’s mother gave him a pencil and paper when he was five years old, and he’s never stopped. When he was in the seventh grade, the teacher asked the class what they wanted to be when they grew up. “When I said cartoonist, they all laughed, and I was embarrassed,” McKeever said, “so I never said that again.”

McKeever is still making people laugh, not at him but rather at his cartoons. He has been drawing cartoons for Baptist Press each weekday for 12 years, and today he reaches a milestone of 2,000 cartoons in Baptist Press.

Countless visitors to SBC annual meetings over the years have left the exhibit hall with their own likenesses in Joe’s trademark caricature style. His annual cartoon series each January has helped thousands of pastors in their facilitation of the SBC’s January Bible study.

Baptist Press readers know him for his daily dose of humor that provides a fresh insider’s perspective on the SBC, a sentimental reflection from a grandfather, or a poignant commentary on the church and pastoring.

In other words, McKeever draws from experience. “Joe has a wonderful talent for cartoons and a spiritual gift for humor,” said Baptist Press Executive Editor Will Hall. “God has given him a special lens to see the joy and uniqueness of situations and the ability to use pen, paper and

coloring to brighten and enlighten people’s days.”

With more and more people consuming information on the Internet, McKeever has kept up by posting his cartoons on Baptist Press and on his own website, www.joemckeever.com, where he also blogs regularly.

“I was teaching a class on cartooning this summer for Vacation Bible School,” McKeever said. “They wanted to know how much money you make. I said ‘Not very much. There are very few that make a living. You just have to do it ‘cause you love it.’”

BP readers also might remember McKeever from his days as the director of missions (DOM) for the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans (now called the New Orleans Baptist Association), a position he assumed in May 2004 — less than a year and a half before Hurricane Katrina changed the city forever.

This past week marked another milestone for McKeever and other Katrina survivors — five years since the devastating storm.

“I had a five-year verbal contract,” McKeever said of his acceptance of the DOM position. “I was 64 years old then. I said, ‘I’ll give you three years.’ They said, ‘Give us five.’ That was of the Lord. Three years [would have been] one year after Katrina. That was no time for transitioning.”

Before the storm, McKeever and his wife Margaret evacuated. Little did they know it would be a month before they could return home.

McKeever set to work immediately to account for all the association’s churches, trying to contact each pastor and assess needs. The task was daunting, since cell phone service was nonexistent and since



no one knew the locations of many of the pastors.

Before long, McKeever established a weekly meeting for the association’s pastors. The first meeting was held in Jackson, Miss., while most of the pastors were still evacuees. Twenty pastors showed up, driving in from as far away as Alabama and even Oklahoma for the fellowship and the information.

“They came in crying and hugging,” McKeever said. “We’d touched a nerve. These guys didn’t want to leave.”

For the next year and a half, the pastors met every Wednesday for three hours at First Church in LaPlace, La. McKeever knows that he was put in the DOM position at the right time. The rebuilding after the storm gave the opportunity for the association to reinvent itself. They even brought

in outside experts to help map out the future.

“I never looked on myself as a stereotypical DOM,” McKeever said. “When I walked away, they got a new kind of DOM for an entirely new program. It was a transition time that I did.”

McKeever retired from the association in April 2009, but not before he had seen the city and the association make great strides toward recovery.

Now that he’s retired, McKeever spends his time traveling to various speaking engagements and teaching a class on interpersonal relationships at New Orleans Seminary. And drawing. Always drawing. He’s had five drawing engagements this month alone.

“If I’d known it was this good, I’d have gone straight from ordination to retirement,” he said.

Looking back

10 years ago

YouthLink 2000, a Southern Baptist sponsored millennial celebration for youth at the end of Dec. 1999, results in more than 15,000 public decisions for Christian service and reaches 46,081 students.

20 years ago

Trustees of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson vote to make the hospital complex smoke-free, including the grounds as well as all MBMC-owned vehicles and other equipment. The new policy “enhances the well-being of our patients and employees,” says executive director Kent Strum.

50 years ago

“Southern Baptists are in danger of losing their whole program if they don’t become aware of the tremendous need on the home field, especially the cities,” says Mississippian Owen Cooper, SBC Executive Committee member, in an interview at Golden Gate Seminary.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

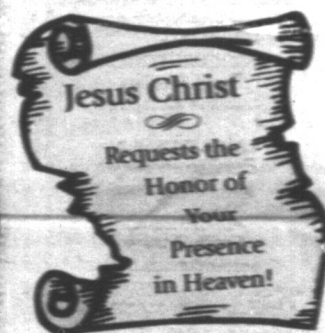
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SEPTEMBER 2, 2010

VOL. 134

No. 34



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Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

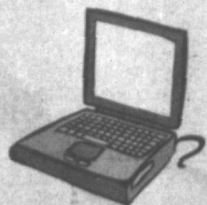
1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

“But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name.” (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Pastor killed

SPOKANE VALLEY, Wash. (BP) — A police officer doing a prowler check outside a business in Spokane Valley, Wa., on the night of August 25 shot and killed the owner, a Southern Baptist pastor, who apparently also was checking for suspicious activity. Details are still emerging in the case in which 74-year-old Scott Creach, owner of the Plant Farm nursery and pastor of Greenacres Church, was killed. Creach was carrying a gun and lives next door to the business. The officer, whose name has not been released, was in an unmarked car but was in uniform, local media reported. The Spokane Police Department is conducting an investigation. A neighbor had requested that police patrol the neighborhood and look for suspicious activity. Creach’s son Alan told the Associated Press that his father walked outside at 11 p.m. to check on a possible burglar. “We have suffered a terrible tragedy,” Alan Creach said. “My mother could hear that from the bedroom.” The police officer and Scott Creach were in close proximity to one another when the shot was fired, KXLY reported. Scott Creach had served as pastor of the church since founding it in the 1970s. It has about 300 members. Creach once hosted a gardening show on a local radio station.



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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Disgracing a profession

I don't recall a time in my life when I thought of any career other than journalism. During my growing up years in the Mississippi Delta, my home had four daily newspapers and three weekly newspapers delivered. In addition, there was a boundless list of magazines that included everything from Better Homes and Gardens to Popular Science to American Rifleman (although I suspect the Publisher's Clearing House jackpots had something to do with that process).

I tried to soak in as much of all that information as I could. I loved reading the county-seat weekly newspapers, with their local club reports and letters to Santa Claus. I loved the daily newspapers for the national and international news and the sports sections. I loved the magazines, which featured articles on everything from how to winterize flowerbeds to the best way to disassemble a .45 pistol.

There was one thing I noticed, over and over again, as I pored over all those pages. The publications and the writers had integrity. I believed I could trust them for the truth. Whether the article was about the Vietnam War or sending a man to the moon, I believed in the author and I believed in the name of the publication.

When I left for college to study journalism, it was a dream come true. I have had occasion to meet great journalists during my 35 years in the business. It was as if many of them exuded the integrity and professionalism I sought. I wanted to be like them. I must say that the Lord has blessed me across the years with many opportunities in this line of work to serve Him and

"HOW WOULD YOU LIKE BEING A TV REPORTER AND HAVE TO ASK SOME WOMAN WHO SEES HER HOME GO UP IN FLAMES WITH HER BABY INSIDE, 'HOW DO YOU FEEL?'"



serve the people for whom I reported the news.

Perhaps I grew up in a golden age of journalism. Perhaps I was youthfully naïve. Perhaps I'm just terminally idealistic. I know this: I have lost my respect for much of what passes for journalism today.

Numerous polls of the American people in recent years have placed journalists at or near the bottom of the list of trusted professions, just above some pretty disreputable ways to earn a living. No wonder. Too many journalists today have brought dishonor to their profession. Too many journalists — and too many publications — don't tell us the whole truth. There's too much favoritism in what's supposed to be balanced reporting, especially when it comes to politics.

That's why my heart broke when I read about JournoList, an exclusive internet blog of sorts where journalists and others of liberal political persuasion plotted to make their "enemies" look bad and otherwise slant the news to their point of view.

It's not a revelation that some reporters have agendas, or that some reporting is unfair. No profession is

perfect, and every profession has scoundrels who bring shame to an honest line of work. The revelation — at least to some of us but not to others who suspected it all along — is that there are established networks of journalists today who collaborate on ways to advance their causes and destroy those who would oppose them.

What a disgrace. We should keep this in mind when the news media report on Christians. There's no doubt some reporters actually plot to cast us in the worst possible light, and many more of them just don't like us. Unfortunately, all of that is reflected in their (mis)reporting about Christians and Christianity.

Get used to it.

Congress has been in recess since early August. They don't return to Washington until September 13. We can all be grateful for a respite from the attacks on biblical values; the spending; and the relentless efforts to regulate every area of our lives.

I wish the recess could be made permanent but unfortunately, the liberals in Congress will be back at it too soon.

Until then, however, your congressman and senators are back home with you. That means this is your chance to meet with them and talk about the things that matter most to you.

They will want to tell you what they have accomplished for you during their time in Washington but rather than simply listening to them talk, you should see this as an opportunity to do some talking of your own.

No doubt, you have a few things you would like to talk to your elected representatives about, but here are a couple that the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is focused on right now that your congressman and senators may be voting on very soon:

• **The return of Internet gambling.** In 2006, Congress passed a bill that ended most gambling on the Internet in the United States.

GUEST OPINION:

Do some talking of your own

By Barrett Duke
Ethics and Religious Liberty Comm.
Nashville



Now, however, some in Congress want to end this ban by legalizing and regulating nearly every form of Internet gambling.

The House Financial Services Committee recently passed a bill, by a vote of 41-22, to do just that. It is H.R. 2267 — The Internet Gambling, Consumer Protection, and Enforcement Act. The Senate version of the bill is S. 1597.

The last thing families need is to have more gambling streaming into their homes 24 hours a day. Gambling addiction is destroying millions of people and their families every year. No amount of regulation can make a bad thing good.

Tell your congressman and senators that you oppose legalizing any more gambling on the Internet. You can read the letter (<http://bit.ly/9trag9>) we sent to Congress to learn more about this.

• **Efforts to interfere with pregnancy care centers.** As the nation becomes more pro-life, abortion clinics are having a more difficult time convincing women that they should abort their unborn babies. These abortion clinics are looking at the success of pregnancy care centers and are seeking ways to push them aside.

The most recent effort is a bill shamelessly entitled the Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act, H.R. 5652. The Senate version is S. 3554. This bill would require pregnancy care centers to state in their advertising that they do not provide abortions. Why should these centers spend money telling people what they don't do? What other business is required to tell people what services they do not provide?

Tell your congressman and senators that you oppose efforts to force pregnancy care centers to advertise services they don't provide, especially abortion. You can read the letter (<http://bit.ly/chcJ2Z>) we sent to Congress to learn more about this.

These are just a couple of bills that your elected representatives need to hear about from you. You can talk about many other issues as well. What is most important is that you make sure you are heard. Even if your elected representatives do not share your values or are not from your political party, you should still talk to them. After all, they are still representing you in Washington and passing laws in your name.

Just look up your congressman and senators (<http://capwiz.com/ethics/dbq/officials/>) and call any of their offices to find out when they will be in your area. Then show up and speak out, and you will make a difference.

Let me thank you now for your efforts to restore biblical values in our nation. May the Lord do a great work through you.

Duke is vice president for public policy and research at the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission in Nashville.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 2, 2010

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

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October 1-2, 2010, FBC, Natchez, Mississippi

Covering Mississippi in Prayer

SPECIAL GUESTS: *ROBIN CAROLL and PATTI HILL*

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MEALS WITH

SPECIAL GUESTS

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Lunch with ROBIN CAROLL
FRIDAY 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Dinner with PATTI HILL

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October 15-16, 2010

9 a.m. Friday – 3 p.m. Saturday
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WHO ARE THE WORKSHOP LEADERS?

JACK AND DORIS DAY – Founder and President of Bible Storytelling Project, Inc. and former Bible Storytelling Coordinator for Eastern South America with the IMB. Jack and Doris do storytelling, lead training seminars and do consulting across North America and internationally.

WHAT IS THE COST?

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For registration form, schedule, lodging and meal cost: Call Paula Smith at 800-748-1651, ext. 336, or E-mail psmith@mbcb.org and visit www.mbcb.org (click "special ministries" on the left and then "literacy")

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Clue: A = M

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A FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Through the years, I have known several ladies named Katrina. My clearest recollection is that every one of them, without exception, was a sweet and gracious person.

However, on August 29, 2005, a hurricane named Katrina came to the south shore of the United States. Since that late summer day, virtually every possible adjective that could be pulled into usage has been applied to her. Sweet, kind, gracious, and gentle are not among them. She has a vocabulary of her own that includes such words as powerful, fierce, incredible, monstrous, huge, and indescribable. On this fifth year anniversary, I would just add the word memorable.

Now five years later the work continues. In the year following Katrina, dozens of books were written and published that were filled with pictures of debris and devastation. Some were filled with hope and encouragement. Regardless of what the book contained, the incredible resilient spirit of so many people on the coast would stir your heart and place them on a pedestal among some of the most heroic people you could ever know. Some destroyed homes have been rebuilt. Devastated businesses are back up and running. Families with nothing left are filling in some of the gaping holes, the vacuum of life.

Ken Murphy published a pictorial book the year following Katrina called, "My South Coast Home." For me, it was one of the most meaningful and painful books that I saw. For whatever reason a few years prior to Katrina, Ken Murphy felt moved to document so many of the memorable places on the coast — buildings and businesses, homes and habitats, sunsets and sea creatures. He had no way of knowing that many of the things that he was photographing would not be in existence after August 29. The buildings, bridges, church houses, historical homes, ports, and restaurants are now all gone. I have often sat and thought of all of the things that changed with Katrina. We lost much and we found much.

What we lost — We lost population. There were people killed in the storm and that pain continues to be felt by families and friends until this present day. Population was lost because many who escaped the storm never came back. Many found work and community elsewhere and have not been able to meet the standards of rebuilding or were unable to pay the increased premiums for insurance. I suppose the 2010 Census will tell the story. Up and down the battered coast, it is generally estimated that 25 to



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

35 per cent of the people did not come back, and so the numbers in our church congregations reflect that same fact. Some of our strong churches continue to struggle to be sustained not because people do not care but because the people are not there.

We also lost places. William Carey University lost almost everything that was at their coast campus. Mississippi Baptists lost our magnificent conference center, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, near Pass Christian. Churches by the scores were either totally destroyed, leaving nothing but a shell or a foundation, and others were so crippled they were unusable. Some of those places where we had met with God are no longer and are only sustained in our memories.

In all of the losses, there are things that we found. We found the graciousness of people far and wide. Every state convention, in the Southern Baptist Convention that has a disaster relief unit sent their teams to feed and care for us. Those Southern Baptists in Mississippi prepared and fed over 3.5 million meals just in our state. Nearly 1,200 churches across the northern part of our state and across the Southern Baptist Convention adopted churches and congregations, and have walked year after year through the process of restoration. While many of these partnering churches and people simply wanted to help an individual church, others sent millions of dollars to help and just through the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board over \$21 million was given. That money went directly to rebuilding churches, supporting pastors, staffs, and their families financially; and rebuilding and repairing homes all across the coast. People cared!

We also found flexibility. The next Sunday after Katrina many of our churches had no building to go to, so they gathered in whatever place they could find and many of them met outdoors. Prior to Katrina, some of our churches had all of the programs, bells, and whistles that Baptist life and Christian growth would allow. Post-Katrina, most of the whistles were gone and many of the bells had stopped ringing. They did what they could, when they could, and wherever they could to meet, fellowship, and grow in their walk with the Lord.

Because most of the people on the coast were in a survival mode, on Sunday they did as they did on other days. They got up and started cleaning up and helping others. At mid-morning on Sunday, many of them were working, hot and tired, and would pause to come to church wherever that was, still dressed in their work clothes. When the amen was said, they were ready to go back to work. I was blessed to attend some of those services. When I was in other parts of the state, I would tell them that the folks on the coast had stopped going to church on Sunday and they had started being the church seven days a week. The kind of flexibility they discovered was that there are many things in church life that we can do without, and even do better, to meet the needs of people if we are a little more flexible with each other.

A third thing we found was prioritizing. After Katrina came ashore, as soon as I could get to the coast, I made my way to several of the feeding units that were in progress. I walked out on the fringe of the people who were gathering and I met this dear precious older couple. They were holding hands and barely able to walk. Like thousands of others, they had a stunned glare on their faces. I asked them if I could help. They said, "Some people told us to come here and we might be able to get something to eat. This is the third day we have not had anything to eat." I said to them, "You have come to the right place." They asked, "How much does it cost?" I said, "Absolutely nothing!" They said, "Well where do we go?" I responded, "Come with me."

Before they started walking across the parking lot, the

two of them embraced and just stood there and cried. Then I held their hands and I walked over and asked the people there if we could get in the front of the line. They got their food and I helped them to sit down in the shade. They said, "Our house is gone and everything that we owned. We do not know what we are going to do for food tomorrow." I said, "Well. I can tell you what you are going to do. You are going to come back here and these folks are going to help you and feed you so you do not need to worry about that." Our priority is to do good things in the name of Jesus, to lift folks up that are down, and to put lives back together that literally have been ripped to shreds. It is who we are and it is what we do best. We are the closest to Him when we do what He asks us to do.

One last thing I noticed that we found over and over again and that is God's grace and love are sufficient indeed for whatever we face. Seeing the aftermath of Katrina, it was impossible to get your mind around it much less to get your arms around it. Our God knew every need, and has day after day and week upon week been there to provide care, love, restoration, and hope. For all of our Southern Baptist friends — the teams that came from Montana, the sweet folks that journeyed all of the way from Hawaii, and the huge numbers who came from our own state of Mississippi and from Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, and Virginia — God readily used you. The people on the coast have been blessed by you and are forever indebted to you. The Mississippi Gulf Coast will never again be like it was. Five years beyond Katrina it will never be the same, but it can be better.

By God's grace and power, we pray that it will be.

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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September 14, 2010 2:30 - 8:00 PM
Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church
4012 Poplar Springs Drive
Meridian, MS 39307

September 16, 2010 2:30 - 8:00 PM
First Baptist Church Gulfport
12190 Highway 605
Gulfport, MS 39503

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MBCB BIVO COUNCIL

Monday, October 25, 2010, 3 p.m.
Sky Room, 4th floor, Baptist Building

BIVO Banquet & Dialogue

"What's Happening in Your Life,
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Monday, October 25, 2010
5 p.m.

Sky Room, 4th floor, Baptist Building

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AND THEIR WIVES

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JANUARY BIBLE STUDY

Studies in
GALATIANS

TRUTH
About
GRACE

September 20
Blue Mountain College
Blue Mountain, Miss.

September 21
FBC, Cleveland
Cleveland, Miss.

September 22
Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board
Jackson, Miss.

September 23
William Carey University
Hattiesburg, Miss.



Teaching:
Alan Woodward
Director, Pastor/Leadership
Development Department
Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board

For more information contact
Kathy Young at
kyoung@mbcb.org or
Lee Ann Boykin at
lboykin@mbcb.org
or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 292
or 601-292-3292

All Conferences:
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Conference: 9:00 a.m. - noon

- Lunch NOT provided.
- No cost
- Please preregister.

IN OUR SHOES:

*The Real Issues Ministers' Wives
Face in Today's World*

MINISTERS' WIVES CONFERENCE

Monday, October 25, 2010, FBC Chapel, Jackson

1:15 - 4:30 p.m.



Speaker: Rachel Lovingood
Women's Ministry trainer, LifeWay

For more info, contact
Kay McDonnell at
800.748.1651, ext. 305,
601.292.3305, or E-mail
kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

NORTH MISSISSIPPI EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

West Heights BC, Pontotoc

September 20, 2010

3:00 p.m. **ERGUN CANER**
Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.
4:00 p.m. **JAMES LEWIS**
Desoto Hills BC, Southaven, Miss.
5:00 p.m. **SAMMY GILBREATH**
Evangelism Department
Alabama Baptist Convention
6:00 p.m. Dinner - hosted by West Heights BC
and MBCB
7:00 p.m. **FRED LUTER**
Franklin Avenue BC, New Orleans
Music led by: **BILLY NELSON**

For more info, contact the Evangelism Department 601-292-3278, 1-800-748-1651, ext. 278, or jellis@mbcb.org

Mississippi Missionary Parents Fellowship

15th Anniversary Celebration
September 17-18, 2010, Garaywa



*Glorifying God as we
partner in His mission
through connecting,
caring and
communicating.*

*"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you, And remember,
I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (HCBS)*

SPECIAL GUESTS

- **Jerry and Bobbye Rankin**, Past IMB President and Mississippi Missionary Parents (Friday only)
- **Terri Willis**, Director, National Relations Office, IMB
- **Jeff Whitfield**, Consultant in Member Care, IMB
- Our own **Mississippi Missionary Children** and their families
- **Members of our Fellowship** from times past

For more info, contact Lisa Miller, WMU, 601-968-3800,
ext. 317, or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 317, or lmiller@mbcb.org

SEMINARY EXTENSION BREAKFAST

for Seminary Extension and Associational Missions Directors
Tuesday, October 26, 2010, at 7 a.m. in the Baptist Building Chapel

Hosted by the Pastor/Leadership Development Department

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!!

If you are already directing a center or if you are interested in starting a center in
your association, please join us for a time of fellowship and sharing.

Obama administration stalls abstinence study request

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—In response to public pressure, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has disclosed a taxpayer-funded study that reflects positively on abstinence education, having first kept the full study under wraps while funding for such programs was slashed.

The National Survey of Adolescents and Their Parents in 2008 found that about 70% of parents agreed with the statement, "It is against your values for your adolescent to have sexual intercourse before marriage," as well as "Having sexual intercourse is something only married people should do."

A majority of adolescents in the survey responded similarly.

Though the survey was presented at two conferences last year, when Lisa Rue, a researcher at the University of Northern Colorado, asked for a copy of

the full survey, her request was denied. She tried again, the second time filing under the Freedom of Information Act. That request also was denied.

"The second denial from the Obama administration leaves me to reflect on the role of cultural values with regard to prevention science," Rue wrote in an editorial. "If we are truly interested in learning how to prevent two critical epidemics currently devastating our country (out-of-wedlock child bearing and sexually transmitted infections), then the nationally representative findings provide momentum and support for accessing cultural values of parents and children which promote optimal health choices for adolescents."

Valerie Huber, executive director of the National Abstinence Education Association, as well as pro-family news

outlets called on concerned citizens to submit a Freedom of Information Act request to view the full study. The response was so vast that the HHS website reportedly was temporarily down Aug. 20.

By the evening of Aug. 23, the full study was posted on the HHS website.

The NAEA said the episode calls into question whether the recent sex education policy decisions by the current administration and Congress truly reflect cultural norms or clear evidence-based trends.

"We are greatly concerned that the sex education policy being implemented by this administration does not reflect the values of what most parents and teens clearly want," Huber said Aug. 24.

Congress and the administration cut all abstinence-centered program grants from the 2010 budget, and funding for 176 abstinence programs is set to expire Sept. 30.

Nearly two million students in those programs will be put at risk, the NAEA said.

"Our state has the highest teen pregnancy rate in the nation," said Larry McAdoo, executive director of an abstinence program in Mississippi that will lose funding. "I do not understand why our services to needy teens would be cut short. Mississippi's teens need more resources, not less."

"Our abstinence program equips youth with the skills necessary to make healthy choices. Soon, however, Mississippi's youth will be left without any resources to counter the sexual messages with which they are continually bombarded."

Among additional results of the study: General parent views about sex and abstinence were more conservative among blacks, Hispanics, and parents from lower-income households.

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. **Macedonia Church, Blue Mountain:** Homecoming and revival, Sept. 26 - 29; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by potluck lunch and afternoon singing; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Jason Pilcher, speaker; Unity Aires, music; Terry Hall, pastor.

2. **New Prospect Church, Brookhaven:** Homecoming, Sept. 12; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by covered dish

lunch; Matt Alexander, speaker; Roland and Irma Jean Ross, music; Willie Welch, pastor.

3. **Campers on Mission** led a revival at **Liberty Church, Pontotoc Association**, Aug. 1 - 4. The campers arrived July 30 and led a witness training session July 31, followed by a visitation in the community. Harvey Sewell, pastor. Shown are the participants.

4. **North Calvary Church, Philadelphia:** Revival, Sept. 12 - 15; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., noon and 7 p.m.; Roy Hawkins, speaker; Karen Cumberland, music.

5. **Parkway Church, Pascagoula:** Homecoming and revival, Sept. 12 - 15; Sunday, Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Greg Foster, speaker; Willie Austin, pastor.

6. **Harmony Church, Brookhaven:** Revival, Aug. 29 - Sept. 1; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Gene Douglas, speaker; Jerry Peagler, music; Owen King, pastor.

7. **Victory Church, Bassfield:** 125th anniversary, Sept. 19, 10 a.m., followed with a covered dish lunch; Charles Broome, speaker, along with a pictorial history presentation.

8. **Fellowship Church, Bellefontaine:** 175th anniversary, Sept. 12; registration, 9:30 a.m.; services, 10 a.m., followed by fellowship meal and 1 p.m.

9. **Tangipahoa Church, Summit:** Revival, Sept. 12 - 15; Sun. services followed by a potluck lunch; 7 p.m. nightly; Ken Boyette, speaker.

10. **Oakland Church, Oakland:** Revival, Sept. 12 - 15; Truman Scarborough, speaker; pastor Jimmy Hood and Steve McGregory, music.

11. **Community Church, Columbus:** Homecoming / 30th anniversary, Sept. 11 - 12; Sat., fellowship supper, 6 p.m.; Sun., services, 9:30 a.m. with singing, reflection, message, and a fellowship meal; Wes Jones, pastor.

12. **Alexander Memorial Church, Hollandale:** 67th homecoming, Sept. 12.



3. Liberty Church, Pontotoc Association

MS POSITIONS

STAFF POSITION AVAILABLE - Hillcrest Baptist Church, New Albany, Ms is accepting resumes for a Senior Pastor. Send to Rev. Trent Grubbs, Chairman, Pastor Search Committee, 216 Hwy 15 South, New Albany, Ms 38652.

GRACE MEMORIAL BAPTIST Church, Gulfport, MS is accepting resumes for Minister of Students. Please send resume to 2412 23rd Ave., Gulfport, MS 39501 or email to gracegina@bellsouth.net.

INSTRUMENTALIST POSITIONS available at New Zion Baptist Church. Send resume by Sept. 15th, 2010, to NZBC 12023 New Zion Rd. Crystal Springs, MS 39059. Ph# 601-892-1246. Email newzionb@gmail.com. Qualifications and duties available upon request.

WILLIAMSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH Kosciusko, Ms is currently accepting resumes for full time Minister to Students. Please mail resumes to: Donnie Sims 16692 Hwy 195 Kosciusko, Ms 39090

FBC FLORA IS SEEKING A PART Time Children's Minister. Please send resumes to P.O. Box 163, Flora, MS 39071 Or E-mail to jcole@fbcflora.org

NEW ZION BAPTIST IS A RURAL Church of Braxton, MS, is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor, can be bi-vocational. Please send resumes to: New Zion Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, 275 Andrews Road, Braxton, MS 39044

VALLEY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, between Pontotoc and Tupelo, is seeking a full-time pastor. Please e-mail resume to twiggins@onecall-inc.com or mail to Tammy Bass 815 Kings Hwy, Pontotoc, MS 38863.

SYLVA RENA BAPTIST CHURCH, Yalobush County, Ms, is seeking a full time Pastor. Please send resume to: Pastor Search Committee Chairman, 17846 Hwy 32, Water Valley, Ms. 38965.

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Pray this day for...

September 3-23, 2010

"... O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth." 2 Kings 19:15

Single Adult Sunday (D&FM Emphasis)
Pray for singles who feel "left out" at meal times, holidays or at church. Pray that Christian families will include singles in their activities.

Pray that God will be pleased with the worship in song and preaching in all churches today. Pray that believers would ask God to teach them how to focus their mind's attention and their heart's affection on the ministry of music and the preaching of the Word.

Anti-Gambling (CAC Emphasis)

Pray for a small team from Pleasant Hill BC, Columbus, Sept. 20-25, traveling to the Dominican Republic to continue establishing spiritual and personal relationships with Haitian college students.

LABOR DAY
Pray for a small team of Mississippi Baptists traveling on a vision journey to Central Asia, Sept. 7-17. They will be meeting with an LMB missionary as well as local church planters. They hope to seek out ways Mississippi can help with the ministry there.

Pray for the Bible Drill Clinic, Lee Association Office, Tupelo (D&FM). Pray for the Holy Spirit to bring the scriptures alive in the hearts of those who have memorized them and those who hear them recited.

Discipleship Rally Emphasis (D&FM Emphasis)

Pray for: (1) January Bible Study Preview, Blue Mountain College (SS); (2) Church Related Vocations Banquet, William Carey University (P/LD).

Pray for the Bible Drill Clinic, Brandon BC (D&FM). Pray for the Holy Spirit to bring the scriptures alive in the hearts of those who have memorized them and those who hear them recited.

Pray for: (1) Sunday School Regional Training, Parkway BC, Natchez (SS); (2) Educating the Church on Homosexuality, Meridian area (CAC). Pray that God would give the church His heart in regard to ministering to homosexuals.

Pray for: (1) January Bible Study Preview, Delta State University (SS); (2) Victor Robinson of Grenada, Miss., who will be at the Mississippi Baptist Building today talking with several church leaders to find partners to work with him in his ministry as a church planter in Vancouver, Canada.

Pray for the Baptist Building At Home Days. Pray for an overwhelming sense of the majesty and holiness of our Lord and God in every meeting this week. Pray for clear direction from God in regard to any plans that are made for Mississippi Baptists.

Pray for those who have been physically or emotionally abused by adults in their past. Pray for them to find miraculous healing in the deepest parts of their hearts through the love of Jesus Christ expressed by the members of His body on earth.

Pray for: (1) January Bible Study Preview, Mississippi College, Clinton (SS); (2) See You At The Pole Day (D&FM Emphasis). Pray that this event will help students learn to be bold in their identity as Christians and in their witness to unbelievers in word and deed.

Pray for the AMD/MBCB Prayer Retreat, Garaywa (MS). Pray for a spirit of humility and oneness among the participants. Pray that each will experience a deeper level in prayer than they have ever experienced before.

Pray for: (1) Bible Drill Clinic, FBC, Laurel (D&FM); (2) Educating the Church on Homosexuality, Gulf Coast area (CAC). Pray that God would give the church His heart in regard to ministering to homosexuals.

Pray for: (1) January Bible Study Preview, William Carey University, Hattiesburg (SS); (2) Church Related Vocations Banquet, Blue Mountain College (P/LD).

Pray for the widows who feel emptiness in the loss of their husbands to find comfort in God's love and care. Ask God for ideas of things you might do to encourage and minister to the widows you know.

Pray for a team from Calvary BC, Macon, as they drive to Cicero, NY, Sept. 4-11, to work on renovations at Lakeshore BC.

Pray for millions of orphans worldwide who need love, protection, education and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. The evils of war, AIDS and poverty destroy the lives of innocent children.

Pray for: (1) Chaplain's Fall Training, Baptist Building, Jackson (MM); (2) Macedonian Call, Garaywa, Clinton (WMU); (3) Missionary Parent's Fellowship 15th Anniversary Meeting, Garaywa 17th-18th (WMU).

Pray for a team from Star BC as they travel to Ukraine, Sept. 11-20, to be involved in evangelism and church development. Pray for God to go before them and show the people their need for the forgiveness and salvation available through Jesus Christ.

Pray for: (1) Mississippi Missionary Fellowship, Garaywa, Clinton (WMU). Pray for our missionaries on the field to experience "the peace that passes all understanding" no matter what their current circumstances may be.

November 8-10, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville

We've enlisted the best "coaches" for our retreat who will challenge us and sharpen our ministry skills. Networking and fellowshiping with fellow servants in student ministry combine to make this the place to be November 8-10. Whether you serve full or part time on church staff or are a ministry volunteer, I hope you'll join us for this year's retreat.

Ken Hall, Student Ministry Consultant, MBCB

SPEAKERS:

Richard Ross, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Allen Jackson, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

WORSHIP LEADER:

John Blackwell, FBC, Olive Branch, Student Minister

A couple of break-out sessions will be available for spouses. Child care will be available during morning and afternoon sessions only by advance reservations.

Contact Rene Edwards, Discipleship and Family Ministry for more info: 601-292-3283, 1-800-748-1651 or redwards@mbcb.org

HOUSE TOPS

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

Making Your Case

Acts 21:40-22:10; 1 Peter 3:15-17

By Rick Henson

"I suffered from embarrassing static cling until I used Cling-gone, by Warf Industries. Now I am a cling-gone too!" The television commercials and magazine ads are filled with testimonies from happy consumers, driving choice cars, using certain hair products, working on special computers, and eating select food. Advertisers know that the testimonial is the most powerful tool they can utilize to sell products.

A personal testimony cannot be easily refuted, which is its value. Your testimony of how you met the Lord Jesus can never be disproved. Though any could refuse to believe in Christ, no one can refute your experience with the Lord. The testimony of how you met Christ is your most powerful witness.

Ed Lacy, evangelist from Mobile, Alabama, shared with me that Dianne, his wife, was

saved while he was still an agnostic. He would strongly argue with her beliefs. He told me that he could not, however, argue with her changed life. Her transformed life eventually led to Ed's salvation.

This quarter we will focus on apologetics; this first lesson lays the foundation for the twelve lessons that follow. This verse is at the heart of what is called apologetics, which is quite different from the similar sounding *apologize*. Both words, however, come from the Greek word *apologia*, which is translated *defense* in both Acts 22:1 and 1 Peter 3:15.

Kenneth Boa identified four functions of apologetics: developing a positive case for Christianity as a belief system that should be accepted; defending the Christian faith against attacks made against it by critics of varying belief systems; answering arguments non-



Henson

Christians give in support of their own beliefs; and persuading non-Christians to commit their lives to Christ ("What Is Apologetics?" article in *The Apologetics Study Bible*, p. xxv).

The goal of apologetics is not to win arguments. The goal is to lovingly respond to someone who asks a question about your hope in God. Believers should take advantage of every opportunity to witness about Christ. The truth of the gospel can be defended in an unbelieving world. Believers need to learn the essentials of the gospel and be able to explain them to others. If we hope to witness to others, our walk must match our talk.

Believers today face a wide variety of philosophies, beliefs, and trends. While many believers know they are opposed to wrong beliefs, they cannot clearly articulate what they believe or why. This lesson introduces the study of apologetics because it is important for adults to know

both what they believe and why they believe.

During the upcoming quarter we seek learn to: 1. Know what we believe; 2. Show what we believe; and 3. Share what we believe. The apostle Paul shared his testimony in Jerusalem as recorded in Acts 21 and 22. He knew what he believed because he spent three years in the Arabian desert and in Damascus studying the Scriptures, before he was called to the ministry (Galatians 1:15-16). Paul, therefore, knew what he believed.

We are called to show what we believe. Peter wrote that each believer should be prepared to make a defense of everyone who asks about his or her faith. That faith must show in our lives, or no one would ask about it. While many believe it improper to discuss religion anywhere except church, we are commanded in Mark 16:15 to take the gospel to the lost.

Paul witnessed on Mars Hill in Athens and on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, before the Governor Festus, and in a ship about to sink in the Mediterranean Sea. Paul spoke

in Acts 22 in the language of the Jews, being a Jew himself. He spoke in Greek to the Roman Commander in the same chapter. He wrote Romans to a mostly Jewish audience, and First and Second Corinthians to a mostly gentile audience. He addressed both groups in Galatians. Paul wrote about this technique in 1 Corinthians chapter nine, "I have become all things to all people, so that I may by all means save some."

By learning the value of apologetics, we will discover the importance of defending our faith and beliefs in Christ. We will also learn that defending our faith does not mean being defensive, but is sharing with love and gentleness. We will learn to relate the Gospel presentation to those to whom we speak without compromising the content of the Gospel.

Your powerful testimony combined with Scripture memorization can be used powerfully by the Lord to reach the lost. This quarter you will learn to make your case for your faith.

Henson is pastor of Oakdale Church, Brandon.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

God's Plan Is Eternal

Ephesians 1: 1-14

By Melleen Moore

Receiving a letter continues to be an important method of communications even in today's society of electronic mail. There is something personal about receiving a handwritten letter sent through the postal service. Having grown up on a dead end road with mail service at the closest intersection, it meant a daily trip to the 'mail box'—often on a bicycle for us kids.

Ephesians is one of those exciting letter experiences to fellow Christians who shared in a close relationship to Jesus Christ. The letter was written from Rome as Paul was under house arrest after his third missionary journey about A.D. 62. As in other of Paul's letters, he was not answering any questions or solving problems but was writing to encourage the believers. Although Paul's life was on the line, he felt a sense of dedication

to encourage the believers in Christ Jesus.

We are In Christ
Ephesians 1:1-2

Paul identifies his authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ—a messenger commissioned by God's will on the road to Damascus. The audience to receive the letter was "saints" (NKJV), believers, (HCSB), those faithful (NIV) in Christ Jesus. The different distinctions were really the same people—speaking of all who had placed their trust in Jesus Christ. Warren Wiersbe describes the saints and faithful as believers who had been saved in Christ Jesus.

The greeting of grace and peace is a comforting assurance "from God Our Father and Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph. 1:2, HCSB). The word grace is cited twelve times in Ephesians indicating the importance of God's gift to undeserving people. Throughout the letter, the



Moore

phrase "in Christ" echoes the ownership of the believer giving reason for honor and praise. The phrase "in Christ" is used some 30 times in Ephesians as Paul stresses the position of the believer. In the words of Warren Wiersbe, "he is identified with Christ, he is in Christ, and therefore draws on the wealth of Christ for his own daily living". With the sincere trust in the divine authority of Jesus Christ, Paul places dynamic proof of God's eternal plan being founded in "in Christ".

We are Blessed
Ephesians 1:3-6

"Blessed" is used three times in verse three. One meaning of the word 'blessed' is praise as Paul gives praise and honor to "God as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1:3, HCSB). The second 'blessed' refers to how God blessed His people. The third 'blessing' speaks of the gifts of God. We, the believers, are the recipients of every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ.

God's eternal plan for man to be "holy and blameless in His sight" (Eph 1:4) was in place before the world was formed. Salvation is not anything that man has done but what Christ did. Being chosen of God emphasizes that salvation is dependent on God—saved according to His plan. "You did not choose Me, but I chose you" (John 15:16a, HCSB). Jesus paid it all with His death on the cross. God's love was and is sufficient for man to be adopted through the grace of Jesus Christ. He looks at the believer with a forgiving heart as if we have not sinned and giving us the inheritance of heaven.

We are Redeemed
Ephesians 1:7-12

Paul so plainly states the eternal plan as redemption by His blood and forgiveness by His grace. The death of Jesus was the price that had to be paid for freedom from the slavery of sin. We cannot earn nor do we deserve to be redeemed. It is His grace, unmerited favor that comes with the acceptance through faith in Jesus Christ. The hidden mystery is revealed in Christ Jesus that the believer

now shares in God's family. This gift is showered on the believer "according to His good pleasure" (1:9, HCSB). It is ours for the taking. What a miracle only God could give by bring together things in heaven and on earth through the Messiah.

We are Sealed
Ephesians 1:13-14

The steps of salvation are outlined in verse thirteen. Hearing the gospel of Jesus' death and resurrection, the Ephesians recognized it was for them. They believed and received the Holy Spirit sealing their salvation. The sealing by the Holy Spirit denotes a true genuine experience and sonship of belonging to God. We believers are redeemed by faith in Jesus. The continuing redemption is the working of the Holy Spirit to make us more Christ like. The completed redemption will come when Christ returns and claims us for Himself. With all praise to His glory, we are redeemed by God's eternal plan.

Moore is a member of Macedonia Church, Petal.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.



Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used

if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. **First Church, Columbus**, held a groundbreaking and dedication service Aug. 8 for their new church campus. Shown are Thomas Southerland, Bobby Sanderson, and pastor Shawn Parker.
2. **Hurricane Creek Church, Sandy Hook**, will host Karen Peck and New River in concert Sept. 12, 10:30 a.m. A love offering will be received.
3. **Eastside Church, Belzoni**, will host a live Beth Moore simulcast Sept. 18, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Lunch included. Cost, \$10. For information, call (662) 247-3844.
4. **Crossgates Church, Brandon**, will host a live Beth Moore simulcast Sept. 18, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., including Chick-Fil-A lunch. Tickets, \$15, available online at www.crossgates.org/bethmoore. Groups of 10 or more will receive one free ticket. For information, call (601) 825-2562.
5. **Fairview Church, Columbus**, will host a live Beth Moore simulcast Sept. 18, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.; doors open at 8:30 a.m. Free tickets available at the church or New Life Christian Supplies. Lunch, \$5, and must be purchased by Sept. 15. Love offering accepted.



1. First Church, Columbus

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

1. **Valley Park Church, Valley Park**: Offering, \$378.50 for VBS in California; shown are the participants.
2. **Conehatta Church, Newton Association**: July 12-16; total enrollment, 111; average attendance, 101; two professions of faith; offering, \$805.
3. **New Henleyfield Church, Pearl River County**: week of July 19th; skit and musical, Aug. 22; shown are the participants.



1. Valley Park Church, Valley Park



2. Conehatta Church, Newton Association



3. New Henleyfield Church, Pearl River County

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STAFF CHANGES

1. **Magee's Creek, Walthall County**, has called Stacy McCollum as pastor. Shown are McCollum with his wife Christy and children Dillon, Zack, and Mikali.
2. **Sunflower Church, Sunflower County**, has called Elbert McKnight as pastor, effective Aug. 1. Shown are McKnight and his wife, Donna.
3. **Fellowship Church, Bellefontaine**, has called Don R. Vaughan as pastor. Shown are Vaughan, his wife Sharon, and son Paul.
4. **Liberty Church, Newton County**, has called William Savell as minister of music, effective Sept. 1. Shown are pastor Hal Ethridge, Renae Savell, and Savell.



1. The McCollums



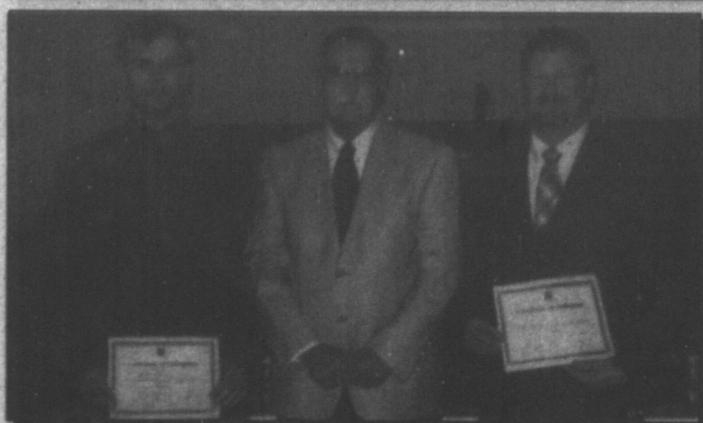
2. The McKnights



3. The Vaughans



4. Ethridge and the Savells



2. Crawford, Clark, and Neal



3. Enterprise Church, Enterprise



4. North Columbia Church, Columbia



5. Webb, Stewart, and Russell



BAPTISTS

1. **Moselle Memorial Church, Moselle**, will hold their annual Faith in Action work Sept. 5, 8:30 a.m. During this event, church members will do community work including picking up trash on the roads, lawn care, painting, home repairs for needy families, visits to hospitals, nursing homes, delivering food to shut-ins, and other work projects.

2. **North Carrollton Church, North Carrollton**, ordained Brian Crawford and Bryan Neal as deacons July 11. Shown are Crawford, pastor Tommy Clark, and Neal.

3. **Enterprise Church, Enterprise**, held a mission recognition service Aug. 25, honoring 94 students including Mission Friends, GAs, and RAs. Shown are the participants.

4. **North Columbia Church, Columbia**, ordained Jamie Singley and William Walley as deacons. Shown are Singley, Jennifer Singley, pastor Mike Grenn, Walley, and Evie Walley.

5. **Oak Hill Church, Meridian**, recently ordained Josh Webb and Jerry Stewart as deacons. Shown are Webb, Stewart, and pastor Mike Russell.

6. **Friendship Church, Brookhaven**, recognized their graduates. Shown are Whitney Waldrop, Jenneast Lofton, Clancy Smith, Taylor Brooke Roberts, Alex Hoggard, Brandon Smith, and Justin Smith.

7. **Unity Church, Moselle**, held a kickoff event for children participating in Mission Friends, RAs, and GAs, pre-K through 6th grade. Eighteen children participated. Shown are the participants.

8. **A.B. Rushing**, left, was presented with a 10-year mission service award by Doug Lee, director of Freedom Missions Baptist Prison Ministry for Honduras and the USA. Rushing and Lee are affiliated with Union Church, Tylertown.

9. **Westside Church, Baldwin**, held a dedication service Aug. 15. Shown are Ralph Lindsey, pastor Wallace Pannell, Paul Rowan and AMD Ben Parman. Pannell has been pastoring for 61 years, 39 years in Prentiss Association.



6. Friendship Church, Brookhaven



7. Unity Church, Moselle



8. Rushing and Lee



9. Westside Church, Baldwin